

IN THE CLAIMS

*Please amend claims as follows:*

1. (Currently amended) A process for preparing a polyvinyl alcohol film, comprising the steps of:

forming a polyvinyl alcohol film from a solution of a polyvinyl alcohol resin, and rolling up said film around a cylindrical core made of a metallic material, wherein the surface hardness of a film roll with the cylindrical core obtained after passing through the rolling up step is set to a Shore A hardness of 60 to 95, said hardness being measured according to JIS K 6301 under conditions of 25°C and 55% RH, and on 1,000 m of the polyvinyl alcohol film wound around the cylindrical core.

2. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein said polyvinyl alcohol film has a water content of 0.5 to 7% by weight.

3. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein a guide roll is disposed in the vicinity of said cylindrical core and said film is rolled up around said cylindrical core by passing said film between said core and said guide roll in the state that a space between said core and said guide roll is maintained during the rolling up operation or in the state that said guide roll is in contact with said cylindrical core through the running film.

4. (Original) The process of claim 3, wherein said guide roll is a crown roll.

5. (Withdrawn) A polarizing film obtained from a polyvinyl alcohol film prepared by the process of claim 1.